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Identical letters dated 13 September 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On behalf of my Government, in its capacity as Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, I have the honour to inform you of the present stage of deliberations of the International Conference concerning the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and, in that connection, am transmitting herewith the declaration adopted at the third Extraordinary Summit Meeting of the Heads of State and Government, held on 8 September 2012 in Kampala, and two reports of the International Conference Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence (see annexes). Support by the United Nations for this regional initiative will remain crucial for its success.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Arthur S. **Kafeero**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

12-51624 (E) 011012

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Annex I to the letter dated 13 September 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo

Third Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government

Kampala, 8 September 2012

Preamble

We the Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, meeting in Kampala on 8 September 2012, at the invitation of President Yoweri Museveni of the Republic of Uganda and Chair of the International Conference, to discuss the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling the decisions of our previous extraordinary summits, held in Addis Ababa on 15 July 2012 and Kampala on 7 and 8 August 2012,

Recalling our decisions made in Kampala on 8 and 9 August 2012 to establish a Subcommittee of the Ministers of Defence of the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania with the mandate to propose urgent actionable steps to ensure that fighting stops completely in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo to allow for the consolidation of peace, security and stability and to provide details on the operationalization of the Neutral International Force,

Recalling also our decisions made at the same Summit to reconvene in Kampala on 7 and 8 September 2012 to receive the report of the Subcommittee of the Ministers of Defence on the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Taking note of the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations supporting the initiatives of the International Conference,

Taking note of the lull in the fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, but cognizant of the deterioration of the security and humanitarian situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the armed and unconstitutional activities of the so-called 23 March Movement (M23),

Cognizant of the gravity of the security and humanitarian situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo that constitutes a serious threat to peace, security, stability and development in the entire Great Lakes region,

Recalling our firm commitment to the International Conference Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region of 15 December 2006 and its related Protocols,

Appreciating the considerable diplomatic efforts that the Chair of the Summit, President Yoweri Museveni, has continuously undertaken to ensure that the fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo stops completely,

Having considered and adopted the report of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence, as amended, including the terms of reference and budget of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism annexed to it,

Having also considered and adopted, as amended, the report of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, held in Kampala on 6 September 2012, including the recommendation to collaborate with the Southern African Development Community,

Hereby decide:

On diplomatic efforts and the cessation of hostilities

1. Request the Chair of the International Conference to continue with his diplomatic engagement with the parties to the conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to securing a complete cessation of hostilities and putting an end to the crisis, if feasible, through peaceful political means;

2. Request the Chair of the International Conference and other Heads of State and Government of the International Conference to send a strong message during the proposed United Nations mini-summit on eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, scheduled for 27 September 2012, seeking diplomatic and technical support from the United Nations to the International Conference initiatives, including on the Neutral International Force, the activities of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and the political and diplomatic efforts to end the crisis in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

On the Neutral International Force

1. The Subcommittee of the Ministers of Defence be expanded to include the Ministers of Defence of all the member States;

2. The Committee of Ministers of Defence should immediately convene to take steps, inter alia, to implement the directives of the Summit on the operationalization of the Neutral International Force within three months;

3. The Committee of Ministers of Defense to inform the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee and directly report to the International Conference Heads of State and Government;

4. Express appreciation to the United Republic of Tanzania for its offer to contribute troops to the Neutral International Force and call upon other member States to make the same commitment within one month.

On the mandate and financing of the Neutral International Force

1. The Neutral International Force should be deployed under the mandate of the African Union and the United Nations;

2. Task the four International Conference member States that are members of the African Union Peace and Security Council, namely, the Republic of Angola, the Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, to make a joint presentation to the Peace and Security Council for formal

consideration and approval for the deployment of a Neutral International Force in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Republic of Uganda to coordinate the engagement of this group of member States with the Peace and Security Council;

3. Urge the African Union to seek United Nations support for the deployment of the Neutral International Force;

4. The Chair of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee to use his good offices with a view to providing diplomatic support for the operationalization of the Neutral International Force;

5. Request the Chair of the International Conference to formally request African States and regional and international partners to provide financial, logistical and technical support for the operationalization of the Neutral International Force;

6. Urge member States to commit financial and technical resources for the Neutral International Force.

On the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre

1. Urge all International Conference member States to urgently deploy their officers to the Joint Verification Mechanism in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo;

2. Direct the Committee of Ministers of Defence and the Executive Secretary to launch the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism on 14 September 2012;

3. The Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre to directly report intelligence information to the Joint Verification Mechanism and to the Minister of Defence of the member State chairing the International Conference.

On the Humanitarian Trust Fund

1. Express appreciation to the member States that have made generous pledges to the International Conference Humanitarian Trust Fund, namely, the Republic of Uganda ($1,000,000); the Democratic Republic of the Congo ($1,000,000); the United Republic of Tanzania ($500,000); the Republic of Kenya ($500,000); and urge other member States to also contribute to the Trust Fund;

2. Direct the Executive Secretary to identify a suitable humanitarian agency to manage the International Conference Humanitarian Trust Fund and to report to the Summit for a decision.

Fourth Extraordinary Summit of the International Conference

Decide to hold another Extraordinary Summit to review progress on the implementation of our decisions, on 8 October 2012, in Kampala.

Done in Kampala, Uganda on 8th September 2012

1. H.E. JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
President of the Republic of Angola

2. H.E PIERRE NKURUNZIZA
President of the Republic of Burundi

3. H.E. FRANÇOIS BOZIZE
President of the Central African Republic

4. H.E. DENIS SASSOU-NGUESSO
President of the Republic of Congo

5. H.E. JOSEPH KABILA KABANGE
President of the Democratic Republic of Congo

6. H.E. MWAI KIBAKI
President of the Republic of Kenya

7. H.E. PAUL KAGAME
President of the Republic of Rwanda

8. 8/9/2012
H.E. OMAR HASSAN AHMED EL BASHIR
President of the Republic of the Sudan

9. H.E. JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

10. H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
President of the Republic of Uganda

11. FOR
H.E. MICHAEL CHILUFYA SATA
President of the Republic of Zambia

Annex II to the letter dated 13 September 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Final report of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence on the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo

Kampala, 7 September 2012

Background

1. The Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence was established by the second International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government, held in Kampala on 7 and 8 August 2012. The Extraordinary Summit was held in response to the deteriorating security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, perpetuated by armed negative forces, in particular M23. The Subcommittee was chaired by the Minister of Defence of Uganda, Crispus Kiyonga, and was made up of the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

2. The Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence was given the following mandate by the Summit of Heads of State:

(a) To propose urgent actionable steps to ensure that fighting stops completely to allow for consolidation of peace, security and stability;

(b) To provide details on the operationalization of the Neutral International Force.

3. The Subcommittee was tasked to submit its interim report to the Chair of the International Conference within two weeks following its establishment and its final report to the Summit of the International Conference Heads of State and Government within four weeks.

4. In discharging its mandate, the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence held two meetings. The first was held in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, on 16 August 2012. The Goma meeting was preceded by the meeting of the Chiefs of Defence Staff and Chiefs of Intelligence Services and received a briefing from the Executive Secretary on the contacts that he had made. The second meeting was held in Kampala on 6 September 2012.

5. The Subcommittee constituted a bureau comprising the following member States:

- Chair: Republic of Uganda
- Vice-Chair: United Republic of Tanzania
- Rapporteur: Republic of Burundi

6. In line with its mandate, the Subcommittee focused on the following items:

- Proposing urgent actionable steps to ensure that fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo stops completely to allow for consolidation of peace, security and stability
- Providing details on the operationalization of the Neutral International Force
- Developing the terms of reference and budget for the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism
- Clarifying the reporting lines for the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre

7. During the Goma meeting, the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence established a Defence Experts Working Group, which met in Kampala on 27 August under the chair of General Aronda Nyakairima, Chief of Defence Forces of the Republic of Uganda. The task of the Working Group was to develop the terms of reference for the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and to clarify the reporting lines of the International Conference Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre.

8. The Subcommittee expressed its gratitude for the guidance it received from the Chair of the International Conference, President Yoweri Museveni. It also expressed its appreciation for the regular briefings and facilitation of its meetings by the Executive Secretary of the International Conference, Ntumba Luaba. After its meeting in Goma, the Subcommittee, through its Chair, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Uganda, presented its interim report to the Chair of the International Conference.

9. After deliberations, the Subcommittee made the following recommendations:

1. Cessation of hostilities

(a) There shall be an immediate cessation of hostilities. M23 to be formally asked to immediately stop all military actions, including recruitment, deployment of soldiers, supplies of arms and ammunitions. Request the Chair of the International Conference to urge M23 to return to their former positions of 30 June 2012;

(b) Identify and initiate contact with all the warring parties to the current conflict in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

2. Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism

Building on the existing Joint Verification Mechanism between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Rwanda, the Subcommittee has developed the following terms of reference for the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism:

(i) The main responsibilities of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism are defined in the terms of reference document. They shall consist, inter alia, of carrying out monitoring, verification and border patrols along the common border areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the neighbouring countries of Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda affected by the activities of M23, Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda and all other negative forces operating in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(ii) The size of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism to comprise the three members from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, three members from Rwanda and two members from each of the rest of the International Conference member States;

(iii) The Committee of Ministers of International Conference member States to officially launch the expanded Mechanism in Goma on 14 September 2012. The Executive Secretary of the International Conference to help in preparing the event marking the official launch of the Joint Verification Mechanism.

3. Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre

Recalling the importance of the International Conference Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre launched in Goma on 13 June 2012, composed of experts from all the 11 member States of the International Conference and charged with the responsibility to collect, process, analyse and verify information on negative and armed groups from the intelligence and security agencies of member States or any other source and to produce and disseminate actionable intelligence with recommended courses of action:

(i) The Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre to support the work of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism;

(ii) Recommend that the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre reports will be sent to the Chief of the Military Intelligence of the country chairing the International Conference, who will then send them to his/her Chief of Defence Forces. The Chief of Defence Forces of the country chairing the International Conference will in turn forward the intelligence reports to the International Conference Committee of Ministers of Defence and the International Conference Executive Secrètary. The Committee of Chiefs of Defense Forces may call on the Head of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre at any time to brief them on the work of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre.

4. Operationalization of the Neutral International Force

(a) The establishment of an African Union/United Nations mandated Neutral International Force comprising troops from African member States and supported by the African Union, the United Nations and other bilateral and multilateral partners;

(b) Task the Neutral International Force to eradicate M23, Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda and all other negative forces in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo and to patrol and secure the border zones;

(c) Immediate establishment of a Military Assessment Team composed of representatives of member States mandated to carry out a field assessment to determine, among other things, the structure, configuration and areas of deployment, including the operational, administrative and logistical needs for the Neutral International Force. The Military Assessment Team to also develop the concept of operations of the Neutral International Force, with the assistance of the African Union, the United Nations and other relevant partners. The concept of operation of the Force should be developed within two weeks following this Summit and submitted to the Chair of the International Conference;

(d) Based on an assessment of the security and humanitarian situation and geographical area to be covered, the size of the force should be a reinforced brigade of a minimum of 4,000 troops; the Military Assessment Team to advise on the actual size and components of the force;

(e) Unless new elements arise, the force shall be deployed in four sectors, namely, Beni-Ruwenzori, Rutshurn, Masisi-Walikale and in Rusizi Plains, in South Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(f) The timeline for the operationalization of the force should be latest within three months following the International Conference Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government, to be held in Kampala in September 2012;

(g) The Summit to start the process of mobilizing countries willing to contribute troops to the Neutral International Force.

5. Mandating and funding mechanism

(a) Request the African Union and the United Nations to mandate the Neutral International Force;

(b) The Summit to establish a mechanism to mobilize resources to facilitate the Neutral International Force and the activities of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and, in that regard, it is recommended that contacts be established with the African Union and the United Nations and other interested partners;

(c) Pending the effective funding support from partners, International Conference member States should fund the activities of the Joint Verification Mechanism at least for the initial three months;

(d) Request the United Nations, the African Union and other interested partners to provide logistical and technical assistance to the Neutral International Force, the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and other related elements;

(e) Request those member States that have not remitted their assessed contributions to urgently ensure full payment of their contributions to the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre.

Done in Kampala, Uganda, on 7th September 2012

1. p/ General Candido P.S. Van-Dunem
Minister of National Defence
Republic of Angola

2. .....
General Major Pontien GACIYUBWENGE
Minister of National Defence and Former Combatants
Republic of Burundi

3. .....
Prof. Charles Zacharie BOWAO
Minister at Presidency in charge of National Defence
Republic of Congo

4. .....
Mr. Alexandre LUBA NTAMBO
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Former Combatants
Democratic Republic of Congo

5. .....
General James KABAREBE
Minister of Defence
Republic of Rwanda

6. Nahodha
Hon. Shamsi Vuai Nahodha (MP)
Minister of Defence and National Service
United Republic of Tanzania

7. .....
Honourable Crispus KIYONGA (MP)
Minister of Defence
Republic of Uganda

Annex III to the letter dated 13 September 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Report of the second meeting of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence on the Security Situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo

Kampala, 6 September 2012

Introduction

1. The second meeting of the International Conference Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence was held in Kampala on 6 September 2012. The meeting was held subsequent to the Kampala decision of Heads of State and Government made on 7 and 8 August 2012. It was held as a follow-up to the meeting of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence, held in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, on 16 August 2012. The Goma meeting established a Defense Experts Working Group, which met in Kampala on 27 August 2012. The second meeting was chaired by Crispus Kiyonga, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Uganda, and attended by members of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence from the Republic of Angola, the Republic of Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Republic of the Congo, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Opening ceremony

2. The opening session was addressed by the Chair and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Uganda, Crispus Kiyonga, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda, Oryem Okello. Dr. Kiyonga reiterated that the objective of the meeting was to follow up on the meting held in Goma, adding that he had presented an interim report to the Chair of the International Conference, President Yoweri Museveni. He stated that the main objective of the meeting was to prepare the final report of the Subcommittee to the Heads of State and Government. Dr. Kiyonga also recalled the twin mandates of the Subcommittee as directed by the Heads of State and Government. He noted that the Subcommittee needed to interact with the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee ahead of the Summit of Heads of State. The meeting expressed its appreciation for the support granted to the Subcommittee by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in terms of vehicles and residential and office accommodations accorded to the Joint Verification Mechanism.

3. In his remarks, Oryem Okello, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda and the Chair of the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee, welcomed the members of the International Conference Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence to Kampala, particularly the Monyonyo Speke Resort. He extended his appreciation to the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence for the job well done after holding a meeting in Goma with the aim of implementing the decisions of the Heads of State and Government regarding the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of

the Congo. Mr. Okello reminded the meeting that the international community and different stakeholders were waiting in anticipation to see whether the recommendations taken by the Ministers in various International Conference meetings would be implemented or just remain on paper. He further indicated that the victims of violence in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo had expectations to see improvement in the security situation and full implementation of the recommendations of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence of the Great Lakes region. He wished the meeting fruitful deliberations.

Agenda of the meeting

4. The agenda of the meeting was agreed as follows:

(a) Brief report by the Chair of the Subcommittee;

(b) Consideration of the report of the Defence Experts Working Group on the terms of reference of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and on the reporting lines of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre;

(c) Brief by the International Conference Executive Secretary on the status of logistical and financial support to the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and related matters;

(d) Consideration of the draft final report of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence to the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State;

(e) Interaction with the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee;

(f) Any other business.

Report of the Chair of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence

5. The Chair of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence informed the meeting that President Museveni, the Chair of the International Conference, was happy to receive the report of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence and extended his appreciation on the commitment and urgency displayed by the Subcommittee in implementing the decisions of the Summit.

6. He indicated that President Museveni directed him, as the Chair, to organize a meeting with the leadership of M23 with a view to informing them of some elements of the recommendations of the Subcommittee of the Ministers of Defence, including reiteration of the position held by the International Conference Heads of State and Government regarding stopping the fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Subsequently, the Chair of the Subcommittee had a meeting with M23 in Kampala, during which the latter mentioned that they were still respecting the decision to stop fighting. However, the group wanted to know what would happen next. In response, the Chair of the Subcommittee informed M23 that President Museveni was in contact with other Heads of State and Government of the International Conference and that they would be duly informed on what would happen next. He further mentioned to the meeting that, even if there was a lull, no formal cessation of hostilities in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo had been declared as yet.

Consideration of the report of the Defence Experts Working Group on the terms of reference of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and on the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre

7. The Chief of Defence Forces of the Republic of Uganda, General Aronda Nyakairima, presented the report of the Defence Experts Working Group on the terms of reference of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and the report lines for the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre. The Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence deliberated and adopted the terms of reference with some amendments. Regarding the budget, the meeting advised that the budget be refined for approval by the Summit of Heads of State. There should be harmonization between the reporting lines of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre and the rules and procedures of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre. The Subcommittee will bring the issue of the reporting lines of the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre to the meeting of the full Committee of Ministers of Defence for further harmonization.

Brief by the International Conference Executive Secretary on the status of logistical and financial support to the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism

8. The Executive Secretary briefed the Subcommittee on his efforts to mobilize funds for the operationalization of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and the Neutral International Force. Efforts so far undertaken by the Executive Secretary included the meetings with the group of friends and partners, United Nations senior officials in New York and representatives of the International Conference member States at the United Nations. During the meeting with the Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the latter indicated that it could provide logistical support to the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism and to the Joint Intelligence Fusion Centre, similar to the support it was providing to the armed forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Head of MONUSCO further asked the International Conference to urgently indicate the specific needs for support of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism. Belgium and the European Union, through its representative at the African Union Commission, among others, had also indicated their willingness to support the activities of the Joint Verification Mechanism.

9. The Executive Secretary was advised that the International Conference should work closely with the African Union to develop a concept document for the operationalization of the Neutral International Force. In addition, the Executive Secretary reported that, following his request, the African Union had already provided one military expert and a civilian expert to assist in the development of the concept for the operationalization of the Neutral International Force.

10. With regard to political and diplomatic support, the Executive Secretary reported that the Secretary-General of the United Nations had proposed to organize a mini-summit for the International Conference Heads of State and Government, to be held in New York on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly on 27 September 2012. The Executive Secretary also informed the meeting that the Southern African Development Community had requested to be invited to attend the Kampala International Conference Summit of Heads of State.

11. The meeting proposed that the Joint Verification Mechanism be launched on 14 September 2012 in Goma. The meeting also requested the Executive Secretary to expedite contacts with MONUSCO and other relevant partners for possible support.

Security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo

12. On the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo noted that the situation had rapidly deteriorated, owing to the fact that M23 had not gone back to its former positions of 30 June 2012, nor stopped its military and unconstitutional activities. On the contrary, M23 had established a structure similar to a government. He also noted that the humanitarian situation had also worsened, characterized by the displacement of the population and appalling human rights violations, including the abduction of children and rape.

Discussions

13. In the discussions that followed the report of the Executive Secretary, the meeting sought clarification about possible support to the Neutral International Force from partners. The meeting also sought clarification on the budget of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism. It was suggested that timelines for the Joint Verification Mechanism should also be clarified, as well as the areas of operation of the Joint Verification Mechanism. The meeting recommended that all member States of the International Conference should be represented in the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism.

14. There was discussion on the appropriate title of the Head of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism, and it was recommended that the title of Commander of the Joint Verification Mechanism be retained. There was also discussion on the issues of resources for operationalization of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism. The meeting felt that the borders to be covered by the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism were fairly long and would require heavy resources. It was agreed that the status of functional immunity of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism in areas of operation should be covered by goodwill.

15. The meeting emphasized that the inclusion of all International Conference member States, though costly, added value to the work of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism. The meeting advised the Executive Secretary to intensify efforts to raise funds for the work of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism, while member States should contribute start-up funds. The meeting noted with appreciation the promise of three vehicles and office and residential accommodation for members of the Joint Verification Mechanism by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

16. The meeting thanked the Executive Secretary for his diplomatic engagements and noted that the final decisions were the prerogative of the Chair of the International Conference Summit and there should therefore be no contradiction or parallel decision-making processes.

17. The meeting felt that it would be inappropriate to disclose the details of their work to the Regional Inter-Ministerial Committee because the subcommittee was mandated to report to the Summit.

Any other business

18. The meeting noted that, during its troika meeting held in Dar es Salaam on 4 September 2012, SADC had commended the efforts of the International Conference in trying to find solutions for the conflict in eastern Democratic

Republic of the Congo, and had expressed its willingness to work with the International Conference in the ongoing initiatives.

Recommendations of the Subcommittee of Ministers of Defence to the Heads of State and Government

19. After further discussions, the Subcommittee of Ministers recommended the following:

(a) Military experts from members of the Committee of Ministers of Defence to provide help to the Executive Secretary to clarify the needs of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism;

(b) The expanded Joint Verification Mechanism to conduct monitoring, verification and border patrol tasks along the border areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda affected by the activities of M23, Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda and all other negative forces operating in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(c) The expanded Joint Verification Mechanism to be constituted by all the member States of the International Conference, including three members from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, three members from the Republic of Rwanda and two members each from all the other member States;

(d) Pending the effective funding support from partners, the Committee to recommend that member States should fund the activities of the Joint Verification Mechanism at least for the initial three months;

(e) The Subcommittee recommended to the Summit to express appreciation to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for offering accommodation and office support to the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism;

(f) The Committee of Ministers of Defence to officially launch the Joint Verification Mechanism in Goma on 14 September 2012. The Executive Secretary of the International Conference to help in preparing the event marking the official launch of the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism.

Done in Kampala (Uganda) on 7th September 2012

1.....
General Candido P.S.Van-Dunem
Minister of National Defence
Republic of Angola

2.....
General Major **Pontien GACIYUBWENGE**
Minister of Defence and Former Combatants
Republic of Burundi

3.....
Prof. Charles Zacharie BOWAO
Minister at Presidency in charge
of National Defence
Republic of Congo

4.....
Mr. Alexandre LUBA NTAMBO
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of
Defence and Former Combatants
Democratic Republic of Congo

5.....
General James KABAREBE
Minister of Defence
Republic of Rwanda

6.....Nahodha
Hon. Shamsi Vuai Nahodha (MP)
Minister of Defence and National Service
United Republic of Tanzania

7.....
Honourable Cripus KIYONGA (MP)
Minister of Defence
Republic of Uganda